

## LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	Public policy learner independence	Project ID No	CLAD - HIST073
Strategy area/theme	Public policy		
Start date	December 2006	Completion date	October 2009
Project type	Learner independence project		
Level		Programme of study	
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To review current practice across the School and with the appropriate subject centres within the HEA</li> <li>2. To make explicit the purpose of learner independence - so that all participants – both students and staff are clear about what it is and what it can deliver, i.e. managing expectations</li> <li>3. To encourage and facilitate the development of learner independence within the School of Public Policy</li> <li>4. To promote more co-operative and collaborative styles of learning between students and teachers</li> <li>5. To build on and enhance good practice already established in the School and elsewhere</li> <li>6. To build-up the confidence and competence of students at all levels to become independent learners, with a particular focus on international students</li> <li>7. To build-up the confidence and competence of staff to explore and adopt learner independence learning and teaching approaches.</li> <li>8. To develop students' abilities to think critically and develop a thirst for ongoing knowledge and desire and skills for learning beyond their existing programme.</li> <li>9. To develop transferable skills amongst students that relate to knowledge and its application.</li> <li>10. To identify transferable principles that can underpin effective learner independence</li> <li>11. To produce a "Learner Independence Toolkit" that can promote learner independence within the School well beyond the life of this project. This will include a range of support materials for staff and students.</li> </ol>		
Overview	<p>The purpose of this project is to facilitate the development of learner independence within the School. A Learner Independence Project Task Group would be set up to review current teaching provision to identify existing good practice and to highlight areas of teaching that might be enhanced by more learner independence teaching techniques and strategies. Due to the large numbers there will be a focus on how to improve and enhance learner independence among international students, but attention will also be given to how to innovate and provide more student-centred learning generally. The key roles for the Task Group will be to manage expectations, make explicit the purpose of learner independence so that all students are clear about what it can deliver, provide a range of support materials for staff and students and ensure that there is appropriate staff development.</p>		
Further Information	<p>For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham  <a href="mailto:cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk">cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk</a> quoting CLAD projects HIST073</p>		